

Montana and the Sky



Vol. 41, No. 4

MONTANA AERONAUTICS DIVISION

April
March 1991

MONTANA AERONAUTICS BOARD RECEIVES NEW MEMBERS

Effective January 15, 1991, and March 5, 1991, Governor Stan Stephens has appointed the following members to the Montana Aeronautics Board.

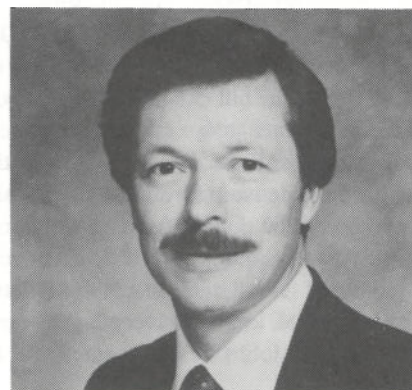
Joe Attwood, Great Falls, represents the Montana Airport Managers Association, replacing Russ Pankey. Mr. Attwood arrived in Great Falls from Spokane in August of 1973, where he was Operations Supervisor for Spokane International Airport. As Assistant Airport Director of Great Falls International Airport, he began his duties in the former terminal building, continuing his responsibilities by monitoring and coordinating the \$10 million construction of the present Great Falls airport terminal building. In 1981, Attwood became Airport Director, overseeing the operation, maintenance, promotion and planning for all activities of the Airport Authority. He holds positions and is a member of many aviation and civic organizations.

Lee Ford, Missoula, is the member-at large representative and replaces Al Cochrane. Mr. Ford has been involved in most phases of the aviation industry since the late 50's. His experience ranges from employment as an A&P mechanic with Pan American World

Airways, Multi-engine Sales Manager with Cessna Aircraft Co. to Manager and Chief Pilot of the Flight Department for Buttrey Food Stores in Great Falls for thirteen years. He is listed in Who's Who in Aviation and Aerospace and has received many awards and recognitions. Ford currently flies and manages the operation of a business jet in Missoula where he and his wife Barbara reside.

Greg Mecklenburg, Belgrade, is the aviation education representative, replacing Mike Strand. Mr. Mecklenburg is President and General Manager of Sunbird Aviation, Inc. He is currently responsible for 15-17 full time employees and the entire FBO operation which includes International Approved Flight School, Part 135 Air Taxi, Retail Aviation Fuel Outlet, Airline Contract Fueling, FAA Repair Station, Aircraft Sales, Flight Testing, and Glider School. Previous aeronautics experience includes seven years as a flight instructor and charter pilot in Bozeman. Mecklenburg holds the following FAA ratings: airline transport pilot, commercial, glider, instrument, flight instructor ASMEI and Glider, FAA designated examiner for private pilot through ATP and flight instructor.

Sharel Stroh, Havre, represents the fixed base operators and replaces C.R. "Sig" Ugrin. Ms. Stroh is co-owner and secretary/treasurer of Hensley Flying Service, Inc. She soloed in 1958 and holds her commercial pilots license with ASEL & MEL, rotorcraft/helicopter, instrument airplane ratings with 3,500 hours flight time. She is a chief pilot FAA FAR 135 Air Taxi Operation and licensed commercial aerial application. She serves as a Montana Aeronautics Division search and rescue coordinator. Stroh is married to Jim Stroh and the mother of five children.



Joe Attwood, Great Falls



Lee Ford, Missoula



Sharel Stroh, Havre



Greg Mecklenburg, Belgrade

Administrator's Column

HOUSE BILL 986 KILLED: Representative Bob Gilbert had no choice but to kill HB 986 which he introduced at the request of the Montana Aeronautics Board and supported by all of the seven Aviation Organizations of Montana (AOM). The bill was opposed by some of the airlines serving Montana, some of the FBO's who provide fueling services for the airlines, and a Great Falls refinery of JP-4 military fuel. The bill was amended in the House Taxation Committee to exempt the fuel sold to the Federal Defense Supply Center and was further amended on the House Floor to exempt passenger and freight hauling airlines. This would have left only General Aviation paying the increase which would have only slightly offset the loss of the military tax. Although the total fuel tax revenue would have slightly increased, a stipulation in the bill which required placing the proceeds of one cent per gallon in a special revolving trust fund for airport development remained unchanged. This would have required that the Aeronautics Division take money from the existing one cent per gallon and place into this trust account leaving the Division in a far worse financial condition that we are in at the present time. Representative Gilbert and Keith Colbo, lobbyist for the AOM, attempted to work out a compromise amendment with the airlines for the Senate Taxation Committee Hearing which was to: 1) reinstate the military fuels at its original one cent per gallon; 2) rebate the airlines one cent per gallon; and 3) leave general aviation unamended in the bill at three cents per gallon. The airlines were not willing to compromise and Representative Gilbert felt that due to the airlines unlimited lobbying resources, the risk of destroying the Aeronautics Division was too great to gamble carrying the bill to the Senate Taxation Committee.

LIABILITY INSURANCE LEGISLATION INTRODUCED: Senator Nancy Kassebaum (Kansas) has again introduced legislation entitled, "General Aviation Liability Standards Act of 1991". The bill (S.645) has 26 co-sponsors and full support of all the major general aviation consumer groups and will likely face the same strong lobby from the legal profession to kill its passage. Senator Kassebaum stated that the industry is facing a "crisis of unprecedented proportions" stemming from the liability situation, that product liability costs have soared to well over \$200 million from \$24 million in 1979. This increase is due solely to the size of court awards and not an increase in accidents. Senator Simpson (Wyoming) who is a co-sponsor of the bill stated that "this legislation is most reasonable and fair. The real significant opposition to this legislation is coming from one source: the American Trial Lawyers Association. This opposing lobby has been successful in the three previous sessions in killing similar legislation."

FLIGHT SERVICE STATION CLOSURES DELAYED: FAA Administrator James Busey has announced that he will be delaying the flight service station closures and consolidations until at least next October 31. Last fall Congress mandated that the FAA submit a plan to staff and operate auxiliary flight service stations which are in "areas of unique weather or operations conditions which are critical to the safety of flight". The reason for the delay is to allow the FAA sufficient time to prepare a report to Congress for staffing auxiliary FSSs which was due this spring. Busey explained that the effort to complete the plan by this spring was too extensive and that the closures the FAA had planned for in this timeframe would be put on hold with some exceptions, those being in areas which would clearly not be candidates for an auxiliary FSS.



Montana and the Sky
USPS 359 860
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Stan Stephens, Governor
Chuck Brooke, Director

Official Monthly Publication
of the
AERONAUTICS DIVISION
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MONTANA AND THE SKY is published monthly
in the interest of
aviation in the State of Montana.
Second-Class postage paid at
Helena, Montana 59604
Subscription \$3.00 per year
Editor: Debbie Alke

"POSTMASTER: Send address
change to Montana and the Sky,
Box 5178, Helena, Montana
59604."

DIVISION SPONSORS WORKSHOPS

The Aeronautics Division will again sponsor college Aviation/Aerospace Teacher Workshops June 10 - July 3, 1991.

The college accredited workshops are offered through Eastern Montana College at Billings; the University of Montana at Missoula and Great Falls; Montana State University at Bozeman; and Dawson Community College at Glendive. Through the workshops teachers are introduced to the world of aviation/aerospace. The concept of aviation education as it applies to all curriculum areas is introduced. Emphasis is placed on local, state, and federal resources - materials and people - and the utilization of these resources in the development of units and projects which teachers can use to integrate aviation and space information into their regular classroom curriculum.

Over the years Montana teachers have brought aviation to thousands of Montana youth through the workshop program. Aviation career awareness is also broadened through aerospace education, and an understanding of the role and effect of aviation on our society is emphasized.

Workshop instructors for the 1991 session are: Carol Frederick, Billings; Paula DeKeyrel, Bozeman; Kristy Bick, Glendive; JoAnn Eisenzimer, Great Falls; and Russ Larson, Missoula.

For further information and exact scheduling of each workshop, contact Fred Hasskamp at the Division at 444-2506.

NEW VOR'S

By: Jerry Burrows, Chief
Airport/Airways Bureau

The FAA has made preliminary visits to Glendive and Sand Springs, Montana for site selections of new VOR/DME stations. Construction is set for 1992 and 1993. These stations will fill a void in central-eastern Montana.

A new air traffic control tower is being designed to replace the existing Helena tower which does not have a clear view of all of the runways.

The Montana State Aviation System Plan Update Phase IV is finally under contract. Approximately \$80,000 is for pavement condition index (PCI) evaluations and updates on 45 airports and capital improvement projects on 6 airports. Approximately \$34,000 will be spent on conducting a feasibility study for a burn pit facility for Montana and surrounding areas. Part 139 airports, etc.

AIRPORT GRANTS

Our office still has available \$1,000 Preliminary Engineering Grants to assist communities with planning for airport improvement projects.

Please contact Jerry Burrows with the Division at 444-2506 if you believe your airport is eligible for this grant program.

AIRPORT DIRECTORY UPDATES

In last months newsletter we gave you a phone number for Pioneer Aviation Corporation, providing 80 and 100 fuel at the Colstrip airport. The contact person was Ted McPherson, phone 406-748-2386.

Montana Aeronautics has been advised of additional phone numbers for pilot use to request fuel. Please record these numbers in your 1991 Montana Airport Directory.

748-2217 (Airport Manager)

748-2755

477-6645

Also note that a telephone is now on the field.

PANKEY JOINS MINUTEMAN AVIATION, INC.

Jerry Mamuzich, President, Minuteman Aviation, Inc., Missoula, announced the appointment of Russell R. Pankey as Director of Marketing effective March 18, 1991.

Pankey will be responsible for marketing and promotion of all expanded Minuteman Aviation services including the Glacier National Park helicopter tours, executive aircraft charters, airline fuels and services, acquiring federal and state grants, planning and promoting Western Montana airshow, new airport tenants and continuing his active role in the local business community.

In addition, Mamuzich announced the purchase of Empire Airway's facilities at the Missoula International Airport making Minuteman Aviation the largest Fixed Base Operator (FBO) in the state.

CALENDAR

May 11 - 12 - Yakima International Air Fair, Yakima, WA.

May 11 - 12 - Festival of Colors 2nd Annual Antique Fly-in, Ocean Shores, WA.

May 15 - LORAN-C Users' Forum, Airport Hilton Hotel, El Paso, Texas.

May 17 - 18 - Big Sky Wing, OX5 Aviation Pioneers, Stardust Motor Lodge, Idaho Falls, Idaho.

May 18 - Grand Opening and Dedication of Colstrip Airport. Fly-in. BRING OWN TIE DOWNS.

May 19 - Aerospace Day, Fairchild Air Force Base, Spokane, WA.

May 25 - 27 - Benchmark Work Session. Baron of beef provided Saturday night by the Great Falls MPA Hangar.

June 17 - 28 - Aerospace Teacher Workshops.

June 22 - Airshow '91, Helena.

June 22 - Fly-in, Plains, combined with the Montana Antique Aircraft Association (MAAA).

July 3 - 4 - Bozeman Air Show and Fireworks Display, Bozeman.

July 5 - 7 - 5th Annual Family Fun Fly-in and Safety Expo, Kalispell City Airport.

July 10 - 14 - EAA Northwest Fly-in, Arlington, WA.

July 13 - EAA Chapter 57, 2nd Annual Fly-in, Laurel.

July 19 - 21 - Schafer Meadows Work Session.

July 20 - 21 - Lewis and Clark Air Festival, Lewiston, ID.

July 26 - Aug. 1 - 38th Annual Experimental Aircraft Association Convention and Fly-in, Oshkosh, WI.

August 2 - 4 - MAAA Fly-in, Three Forks.

August 7 - 11 - Airshow Canada, Abbotsford, BC.

August 10 - 11 - Fly Pocatello '91, Pocatello, ID.

August 22 - 25 - Ninety Nines 1991 Northwest Section Meeting, Holiday Inn, Bozeman.

August 31 - Sept. 2 - Fly-in, Yellowstone Airport, West Yellowstone.

Sept. 20 - 22 - Mountain Search Pilot Clinic, Kalispell.

Feb. 26 - 29, 1992 - Montana Aviation Conference, Bozeman.

1991 AVIATION CONFERENCE MEMORIES



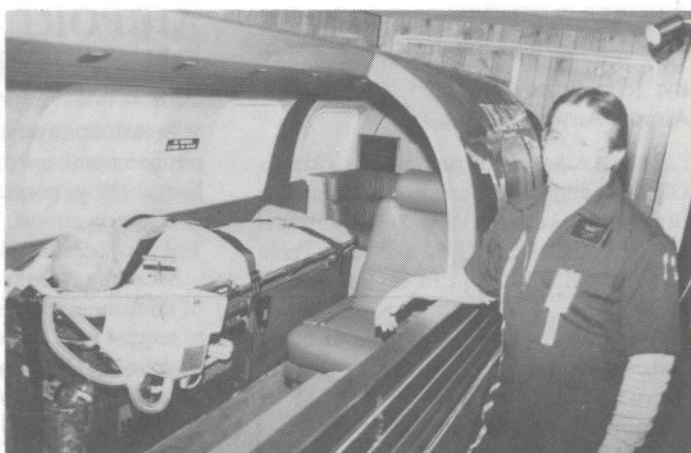
Jim Fleming, Flight Products International, Kalispell, displays his latest products.



From Addison, Texas, Bill Little of Superior Air Parts, Inc., (right) visits with Orman LaVoie (left) of Hamilton.



Attendees enjoyed a "strolling" buffet lunch in the exhibit area Friday afternoon.



Rod Baird and members of Deaconess Flight Department accompanied this air ambulance mock-up to the Conference. Mr. Baird explains equipment and procedures used by the Department.



Our friends from Broomfield, Colorado, Robert Morefield and Munsey Ayers.



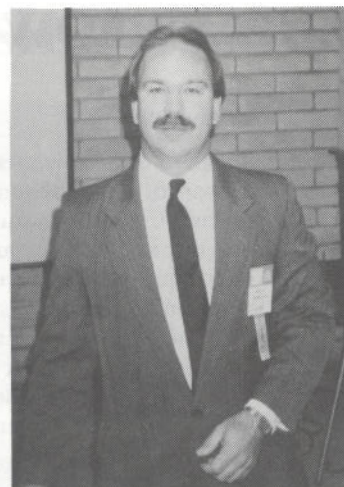
A group of participants from the FAA. Pictured are Art Wells, Leo Wadekamper, Jim Binion, Jim Cooney and Jim Erkens.



Airport Managers Monte Eliason, Glacier Park International, Ron Mercer, Helena Regional and Joe Attwood, Great Falls International, are pictured following a MAMA meeting.



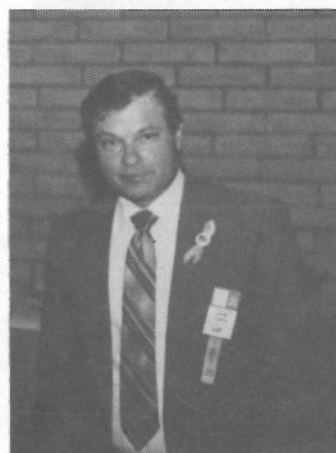
Joe Hutterer, Texttron-Lycoming, Wichita, Kansas, presents participants of the mechanics seminar with an update on Lycoming Operations.



An 'Overview of Global Positioning System' was conducted by Russ Gordon of Trimble Navigation, Austin, Texas.



JoAnn Eisenzimer, Phil Vittetoe, Monte Eliason and Mike Strand provided valuable information to students helping them plan their aviation career.



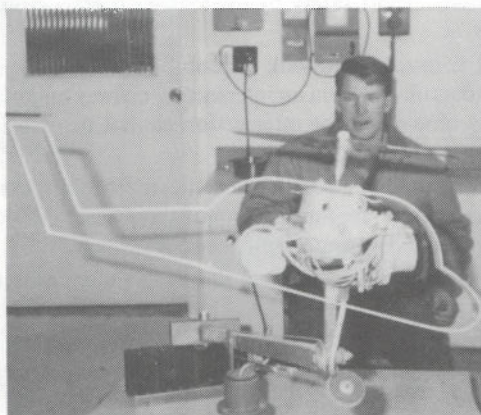
Another instructor during the mechanics seminar was John Lauer, Superior Air Parts, Addison, Texas.



Rich Levandowski, State Fire Marshall's Bureau, Department of Justice, conducted a session on above ground fuel storage tanks.



Ray Sanders furnished his Fairchild 24 for viewing during the static display hosted by the Kalispell EAA Chapter 102.



A popular feature of the static display was a desktop simulator helicopter being flown and enjoyed here by Blaine Meissner of the Aeronautics Division.



Representative Bob Gilbert took time from the busy legislation session and provided a state legislative update for interested participants.

SNOW PLOW TESTING AT YELLOWSTONE AIRPORT

By: Jerry Burrows, Chief
Airport/Airways Bureau

This is the third consecutive year that a major United States snowplow manufacturer has utilized the Yellowstone Airport for testing, generally as part of a federal contract.

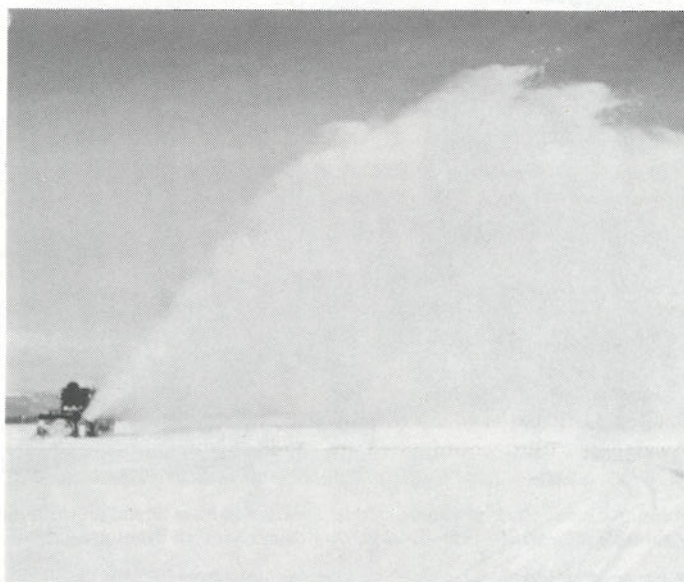
Oshkosh Truck Corporation trucked in two large rotary plows and accessories. Oshkosh personnel together with United States Air Force personnel participated in this equipment testing program in mid March, 1991.

While we are grateful for the additional income, it does seem strange that companies located in northern Wisconsin and New York have difficulty finding adequate snow accumulation and choose to come to southern Montana. We were told we could purchase one of these plows, similar to the one pictured, for \$250,000.

People have asked why we don't keep the airport open in the winter. The heavy snowfall is one of the reasons. The University of Wyoming also did some testing on a new design highway plow on Yellowstone's entrance roads. Snow depth varied from two feet to four feet on the flats with drifts to ten feet and over.



Yellowstone Airport Terminal Building, March 1991.



Oshkosh rotary plow throws out snow several hundred feet.

NEW "GROUND RULES" FOR ATC HANDBOOK

The FAA acted last month to increase airport safety by tightening air traffic procedures for movement of aircraft on runways.

The agency amended its Air Traffic Control Handbook to prohibit its current practice of authorizing aircraft at night to taxi onto a runway from an intersecting taxiway and hold there. The practice will be prohibited at any time when the intersection cannot be seen from the control tower because of weather or an obstruction.

"Today's actions are designed to carry out our commitment to improve airport safety," Administrator James Busey said. The changes are among several the agency considered as the result of a review of its ground procedures begun almost two years ago.

Another result of that review is the new \$50 million national plan released last month calling for better runway markings and use of the latest in high technology guidance to flight crews.

The amendment to the controllers' handbook was transmitted to control towers nationwide. It reads in part: Between sunset and sunrise, "do not authorize aircraft to taxi into position and hold at any time when the intersection is not visible from the tower."

In an explanatory statement accompanying the amendment, the agency told controllers "the increasing mix of traffic at airports requires changes which meet high levels of safety while accommodating the demands placed on the National Airspace System."

VETERANS FLIGHT TRAINING BENEFITS EXTENDED

President Bush has signed into law H.R. 180 which will expand current vocational veterans flight training benefits. The bill contains the same basic requirements as those of current law.

The extension of benefits will include persons who entered military service after December 31, 1976. This is the same group of veterans covered under Chapter 32, more commonly known as the Veterans Education Assistance Program (VEAP).

Previous legislation signed into law in 1989 applied only to those veterans who entered the service after June 30, 1985.

AIRCRAFT MECHANIC TOOL SCHOLARSHIP WINNER



Mike Ferguson awards the 1991 Aviation Mechanic Tool Scholarship to Helena Vo-Tech aviation maintenance program graduate Korey Jorgensen of Great Falls.



Present during the ceremony were Fred Hasskamp, Mike Ferguson, recipient Korey Jorgensen and Phil Vittetoe, Aviation Maintenance Instructor, Helena Vo-Tech.

AIRPORT CAREER AWARENESS TOUR

Jerome Tuss' eighth grade students from Clancy participated in an Airport Career Awareness Tour coordinated by Fred Hasskamp, Chief, Safety and Education Bureau.

Shown are the students receiving a flight orientation at the Montana Aeronautics Division, touring the Montana Army National Guard Aviation Support Facility and at Hal Keilman's Power Plant Class at the Helena Vo-Tech.



FAA ISSUES CERTIFICATES

PRIVATE

Todd W. Denowh Sidney
 Angelo S. Ferraro Billings
 Robert R. Gates Bozeman
 John J. McKinley Sidney
 Larry N. Ophus Big Sandy
 Jeanette J. Rankin Ferdig
 Terry L. Tomscheck Oilmont

COMMERCIAL

Robert R. Bartlett Helena
 Kenneth P. Dial Missoula
 Mark G. Mamuzich Conrad

INSTRUCTOR

Richard R. Burger Helena
 Rose M. Buschbom Livingston

Robert M. Keill Helena
 Shawn A. Zimmerman Kalispell

COMMERCIAL INSTRUMENT

George F. Costello Butte
 Robert D. Norhton Helena

COMMERCIAL INSTRUMENT — MULTI ENGINE

Lance Boyanton Great Falls

COMMERCIAL MULTI-ENGINE TYPE

Patrick Pauli Great Falls

COMMERCIAL

MULTI AND SINGLE ENGINE

Erik A. Anderson Billings

Dale R. Hovdey Missoula
 Robin Seltzer Helena

COMMERCIAL MULTI AND SINGLE ENGINE INSTRUMENT

David A. Bright Kalispell

COMMERCIAL INSTRUMENT — ROTORCRAFT HELICOPTER

Richard R. Burger Helena

2,000 copies of this public document were published at an estimated cost of \$.42 per copy for a total cost of \$837, which includes \$632 for printing and \$205 for distribution.

MEMBER

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE AVIATION OFFICIALS

PURPOSE—"To foster aviation, as an industry, as a mode of transportation for persons and property and as an arm of the national defense; to join with the Federal Government and other groups in research, development, and advancement of aviation; to develop uniform laws and regulations; and to otherwise encourage cooperation and mutual aid among the several states"



April 1991

Second-Class
 Postage Paid at
 Helena, MT 59604

P.O. Box 5178
 Helena, Montana 59064